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CASES FROM PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE AND THERAPEUTIC NOTES
ON FUNGOID FLORA IN THE USSR

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[A Digest]

The shifting of great masses of the population in World War II and the post-war period, and the ensuing occupation of parts of the country have produced quantitative and qualitative changes in the fungoid flora of the Soviet Union. Study of these fungi in localities not studied previously is very informative from the epidemiological as well as from the prophylactic standpoint. For this reason we have undertaken a study of the fungoid flora of Ivdel'skiy Rayon.

Until recently few persons with fungoid diseases reported to the Polyclinic Skin Department. The majority of these patients had been ill for a long while. In addition, there is no doubt that many have not reported for aid and are, consequently, sources of infection.

In 1946 - 1947 there were 47 cases of fungoid diseases in the Polyclinic (excluding those with epidermophytosis); of these, 28 had superficial trichophytosis of the scalp, one of the beard, four of the smooth skin, two had deep trichophytosis of the scalp, ten had microsporia of the scalp, and two had mange on the head.

The types of microsporia observed presented an unusual clinical picture, resembling ordinary seborrhea or early forms of seborrhea.

All cases of trichophytosis were of the ordinary type.

Diagnosis of all cases was confirmed by microscopic study.

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Cultural specimens were made from 10 of the cases (I should like to thank Dr Pentovskiy of the Moscow Mycological Dispensary for the culture specimens). Eight cultures of *Trichophyton violaceum*, two of *T. crateriforme*, one of *T. gypseum*, four cultures of *Microsporum ferrugineum*, and one of *Achorion schoenleinii* were obtained.

Although the amount of material was small, the following facts merit consideration:

1. The discovery of *Microsporum ferrugineum* in Ivdel'skiy Rayon is extremely important, and increases the data now available on the presence of this fungus in various rayons of the USSR.

The appearance of this type of fungus on the Northern Urals makes the problem of its diagnosis and control an urgent one, because of its high contagiousity and the peculiarities of the clinical picture of this fungus infection.

2. It has been shown that the *Trichophyton violaceum* will prevail in localities where other trichophytons will not.

3. Even the comparatively small number of cases of serious trichophytosis (in one family) in an agricultural region such as Ivdel merits attention.

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